20. A protective mechanism comprising:
a guide member having a guide member face;
a connector;
an actuation member configured to have a first end portion and a second end portion, the first end portion of the actuation member pivotally coupled to the guide member;
a cover member pivotally coupled to the guide member and configured to interact with the actuation member so as to pivot to uncover the connector when the actuation member pivots in a first direction and to pivot to cover the connector when the actuation member pivots in a second direction; and
first and second alignment members, wherein the alignment members are disposed in spaced relation to the actuation member to guide a medical device to interact with the actuation member to pivot the cover member to uncover the connector prior to the medical device engaging with the connector,
wherein:
the actuation member includes a sloped face,
the sloped face defines a sloped portion of the actuation member such that a cross-sectional area of the sloped portion of the actuation member increases from the first end portion of the actuation member to a point between the first and the second end portions of the actuation member where the sloped face ends,
when the actuation member is in a first position, the sloped face protrudes from a plane of the guide member face, and
when the actuation member is in a second position, the sloped face lies substantially in the plane of the guide member face.

21. The protective mechanism of claim **20**, further comprising at least one actuation spring, wherein:
each of the least one actuation spring has a respective first end and a respective second end, wherein:
the respective first end of the at least one actuation spring is coupled to the actuation member,
the respective second end of the at least one actuation spring is coupled to the guide member, and
the at least one actuation spring is configured to bias the actuation member to the first position.

22. An apparatus comprising:
a guide member having a guide member face;
a connector coupled to the apparatus;
an actuation member configured to have a first end portion and a second end portion, the first end portion of the actuation member pivotally coupled to the guide member;
a protective member configured to have a first end portion and a second end portion, the first end portion of the protective member pivotally coupled to the guide member, the second end portion of the protective member including a cover portion configured to cover the connector, the protective member adapted to engage with the actuation member and
first and second alignment members, wherein the alignment members are disposed in spaced relation to the actuation member to guide a medical device to interact with the actuation member to thereby pivot the protective member to uncover the connector prior to the medical device engaging with the connector,
wherein:
the cover portion includes a perimeter rib adapted to seal against a compliant gasket when the actuation member is in a protective position and the connector is covered by the cover portion,
pivotal movement of the actuation member in a first direction from a first position to a second position causes the protective member to pivot from the protective position to a non-protective position, thereby uncovering the connector, and
pivotal movement of the actuation member in a second, opposite direction from the second position to the first position causes the protective member to pivot from the non-protective position to the protective position, to thereby cover the connector.

23. The apparatus of claim **22**, wherein the apparatus is configured to protect the connector when operatively gripping the medical device to engage the connector.

24. The apparatus of claim **22**, wherein the connector is configured to interface with a monitoring client.

25. A protective mechanism comprising:
a guide member;
a connector;
an actuation member configured to have a first end portion and a second end portion, the first end portion of the actuation member pivotally coupled to the guide member;
a cover member pivotally coupled to the guide member and configured to interact with the actuation member so as to pivot to uncover the connector when the actuation member pivots in a first direction and to pivot to cover the connector when the actuation member pivots in a second direction;
a latch member configured to have a first end portion and a second end portion, the latch member pivotally coupled to the guide member at a pivot point between the first and the second end portions of the latch member; and
first and second alignment members, wherein the alignment members are disposed in spaced relation to the actuation member to guide a medical device to interact with the actuation member to thereby pivot the cover member to uncover the connector prior to the medical device engaging with the connector; and
at least one latch spring, wherein:
each of the at least one latch spring has a respective first end and a respective second end,
the respective first end of the at least one latch spring is coupled to the guide member,
the respective second end of the at least one latch spring is coupled to the latch member at a respective point between the pivot point and the second end portion of the latch member, and
the at least one latch spring is configured to bias the latch member to a latched position.

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